

June 6, 2011
Mr. Christopher Whyrick
Senior Campaign Finance Analyst
Federal Election Commission
Washington, DC 20463

RE: Friends of Simitian (C00458117)
Year-End Report (10/1 -12/31/2010)

Dear Mr. Whyrick:

We are in receipt of your letter dated May 2, 2011. This letter and the submitted amended reports will serve as our response. Unfortunately, attempts over the last several weeks to reach you by phone have been unsuccessful, so we were unable to get clarification on the first issue raised in your letter. We have done our best to respond without the additional insight a phone conversation may have provided.

Senator Joe Simitian anticipated a special election in the 15th Congressional District in California, first during calendar year 2009, then in 2010 and currently in 2011. No special election has ever been scheduled. Friends of Simitian has not accepted more than the permissible personal or federal PAC contribution limit for a single special election. No funds have been accepted for more than one election. When the committee was formed, counsel for the committee spoke to the FEC's information division and was informed that a committee could be formed for a potential special election and the committee could be redesignated for future years without contributor redesignation or potential refund as long as no special election was held. The committee complied with this direction.

First, you have requested additional information as to contributions accepted for both the 2009 and 2010 potential special elections. Your letter states that based on Regulation 110.1(b)(3), within 60 days after the 2010 general election, all contributions designated for this election must have been redesignated or reattributed to the contributors, or otherwise refunded. Friends of Simitian accepted no contributions for the 2010 general election. The Committee has accepted a maximum of \$2,400 per contributor toward the 2010 special election in order to ensure no contribution limits are violated, and no general contributions must be returned.

Based on a previous letter, we have amended our reports to indicate the contributions accepted by the committee were for the special election in 2010 and not for the general election.

Second, you asked that a post-election detailed summary page be added to the year-end report. Since there was no 2010 special election, we do not believe we were required to file a post general election report since 11 CFR 104.5 (a)(2)(ii) requires a post election report filed no later than 30 days after any general election in which the candidate seeks election.

We are hopeful our answers have been fully responsive. The Committee remains diligent in its effort to comply with the Act.
